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FLU UPDATES

Flu Vaccination Program in Laos

The Lao People's Democratic Republic a small and relatively resource-poor southeast Asian country, will launch a seasonal influenza vaccination on April 24, 2012. The program will focus on protecting adults at high risk of serious flu-related complications, including pregnant women. The program launch is the product of [a 6-year collaboration between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Lao Ministry of Health to develop the country's influenza public health capacities. This year's vaccine is being provided by [Walgreens](#), which has donated 375,000 doses of trivalent inactivated vaccine directly to Lao PDR.

The Influence of Altruism in Vaccine Decisions

A [recent study](#) found that altruism significantly shifted vaccination decisions away from individual self-interest and towards the community optimum, greatly reducing the total cost, morbidity and mortality for the community.

Journal Articles

- [High morbidity and mortality associated with an outbreak of influenza A\(H3N2\) in a psycho-geriatric facility](#)
- [Decreased serologic response in vaccinated military recruits during 2011 correspond to genetic drift in concurrent circulating pandemic A/H1N1 viruses](#)
- [Increased reactions to pediatric influenza vaccination following concomitant pneumococcal vaccination](#)
- [Screening for Influenza A\(H1N1\)pdm09, Auckland International Airport, New Zealand](#)

Influenza News Articles

- [Vaccine manufacturers seek to broaden influenza B protection coverage](#)
- [US flu activity on a slow decline](#)
- [AMRI will help develop, make influenza drug](#)

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AVIAN INFLUENZA

Journal Article

According to a study in [BMC Infectious Diseases](#) of blood samples from 306 poultry workers in a Chinese province that has experienced H5N1 avian flu outbreaks and two human cases found that 8 workers (2.6%) had serologic evidence of H5N1 infection. The authors conclude, "Our findings suggest that avian-to-human transmission of influenza H5N1 virus remains low in China."

H5N1 Study Controversy

- [NSABB member says officials stacked deck for board's H5N1 decision](#)
- [Bias accusation rattles US biosecurity board](#)
- [H5N1 Flu Expert Takes Issue With NSABB Approach](#)
- [Fouchier plans to flout Dutch export law, publish H5N1 study](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

Influenza Videos

In a [new video](#), Dr. Claudia Vellozzi with CDC's Immunization Safety Office answers questions about the safety of flu vaccines. This video is intended for general audiences as well as health care professionals. For more information about vaccine safety, please see [Influenza Vaccine Safety](#).

NIAID Animation Describes Influenza's Drifting Ways
A [new National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases \(NIAID\) animation](#) explains the ever-mutating nature of influenza viruses.

Health Care Personnel Vaccination

On April 25 at 2pm there will be an [online seminar series](#) presented by the American Nurses Association and CDC, Vaccination of Healthcare Personnel - Educated Decisions Caring Choices.

National Infant Immunization Week

April 21-28 is [National Infant Immunization Week \(NIIW\)](#). The goal of NIIW is to promote the benefits of immunization in protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases. NIIW is held in conjunction with [Vaccination Week in the Americas \(VWA\)](#), sponsored by the Pan American Health Organization. VWA participants work to promote the need for routine vaccination of infants and children in more than 40 countries in the Western Hemisphere.